Microsoft

Microsoft Server Solutions Guide

Which Server to Choose for Small and Midsize Businesses

Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2

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Introducing the Windows Server Family for Small and Midsize Businesses

Today's business environment demands that small and midsize businesses do more with less. The large majority have limited IT resources, employees, and time. With Microsoft® servers, there's help. Microsoft provides server software and solutions for different business needs—and we know that every business is unique. This guide will help provide better direction on which Microsoft server software may be most appropriate for your needs. To further determine the right solution, we encourage you to contact your Microsoft Small Business Specialist or Certified Partner to help you make the most informed choice.[1]

WINDOWS SERVER 2003 R2

Microsoft Windows Server® 2003 R2 is a server operating system for powering connected applications, networks, and Web services for businesses of any size. Easy to deploy, manage, and use, Windows Server 2003 R2 helps you keep data secure, get more value from shared resources, empower employee collaboration, and help workers access files remotely. In addition to the increased security, reliability, and performance of Windows Server 2003 with Service Pack 1 (SP1), Windows Server 2003 R2 enables new scenarios, including simplified branch management, simplified identity and access management, efficient data storage, a rich Web platform, and cost-effective server virtualization.

WINDOWS SMALL BUSINESS SERVER 2003 R2

Microsoft Windows® Small Business Server 2003 R2 provides many of the networking features used by large companies without the complexity typically associated with server technology. While Windows Server 2003 R2 is a platform for building custom solutions, Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 (SBS 2003 R2) is an advanced IT solution designed to help you protect your data, do more with less, and connect with customers like never before. SBS 2003 R2 provides small businesses with many of the features used by large companies—e-mail, Internet connection, internal Web sites, remote access, support for mobile devices, file and printer sharing, backup and restore—all in one affordable, integrated solution. With SBS 2003 R2, you can have confidence that your data is secure, realize new productivity from your desktops, keep your business up and running, and empower your employees to do more.

SBS 2003 R2 provides an advanced solution for security and productivity for up to 75 workstations and is available in two editions: Standard and Premium.

[1] *See the back of this guide for more information about how to find a Solution Provider.*

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Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2: Benefits	Product Technologies	Standard Edition	Premium Edition
Protected, reliable operating system	Microsoft Windows Server 2003	●	●
File, print, and application sharing			
Robust firewall for improved security and data protection			
Internal company Web site (intranet) for document and information sharing	Microsoft Windows SharePoint® Services	●	●
E-mail and messaging solution	Microsoft Exchange Server 2003 SP2 Microsoft Office Outlook 2003	●	●
Microsoft Office Outlook® 2003			
Shared calendaring			
NEW! Expanded mailbox limits to 75 GB			
NEW! Automated network-wide patch and update management	**NEW!** Microsoft Windows Server Update Services	●	●
NEW! Daily report on status of desktops and server(s) running Microsoft software			
Fax with fewer phone lines from desktops	Microsoft Shared Fax Service	●	●
Receive faxes via e-mail or printer			
Powerful, integrated data management and reporting solution	**NEW!** Microsoft SQL Server™ 2005 Workgroup Edition		●
Firewall for multi-layer security	Microsoft Internet & Security Acceleration (ISA) Server 2004		●
Tools to manage and monitor internal Internet access			
Tools to develop Web sites	Microsoft Office FrontPage® 2003		●

WHICH ONE IS RIGHT FOR YOUR BUSINESS?

Whether you implement Windows Server 2003 R2, SBS 2003 R2, or a combination of the two depends on a variety of factors.

Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 is usually a great choice for[2]:

- A business looking for their first server solution to support up to 75 users.
- Companies needing a server solution with a relatively simple initial implementation.
- Businesses looking to support 75 or fewer users operating from a single location and/or have remote offices.
- A company wanting a solution that fulfills their needs right out of the box. SBS 2003 R2 includes much of the functionality required for day-to-day business operations.

Windows Server 2003 is generally recommended for:

- Businesses with complex or highly specific IT needs, such as linking multiple servers together, running certain memory-intensive applications, or where data backup and recovery is mission-critical.
- Servers fulfilling a specific, narrow purpose other than general business use, for which the components or added functionality of SBS 2003 R2 is not needed. In such situations, the added features and functionality of a complete small-business solution like SBS 2003 R2 may not be appropriate, and a standalone operating system like Windows Server 2003 R2 may be more useful as a starting point for a customized solution.
- Businesses with multiple locations that need to maintain the performance, availability, and productivity benefits of a local branch office server. Windows Server 2003 R2 includes many robust branch management features.

[2]There is no built-in limitation on the number of users with Windows Server 2003 R2.

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FINDING THE MICROSOFT SERVER SOFTWARE THAT FITS YOUR BUSINESS NEEDS

The left-hand column of this table describes some typical server-related business needs. The other columns represent Microsoft server software solutions. Remember, each business is unique—consult your Microsoft Small Business Specialist or Certified Partner to help determine the best solution for you.

You need	We recommend	Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 Standard Edition	Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 Premium Edition	Both Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 and Microsoft Windows Server 2003 R2	Microsoft Windows Server 2003 R2
Users/Locations					
Our company needs a network for 75 or fewer users today.	SBS 2003 R2 supports up to 75 users or devices while Windows Server has no user limits. We recommend you choose the right server based on your business needs.	75 or fewer	75 or fewer	75 or fewer	1 or more
We have multiple locations.	SBS 2003 R2 provides connectivity to e-mail, files, and applications from the Web and can therefore be used for remote access, depending on the amount of network traffic and connection bandwidth available between locations. When scalability is important, adding a local Windows Server running Terminal Services to deliver application functionality to the network may be the recommended solution, as it provides robust application access while keeping bandwidth usage and costs reasonable. Windows Server 2003 provides sophisticated branch office functionality and is a recommended solution if you need high performance, availability, and productivity while optimizing network traffic for e-mail, files, and dat a between branches and the head office.	Depends	Depends	Yes	Yes
Level of Complexity					
This is our first server and we're looking for a simple initial implementation.	SBS 2003 R2 has wizards to guide the installation process. We recommend engaging with a Microsoft Certified Partner to ensure optimum initial configuration as well as for ongoing maintenance and support.	Yes	Yes	Depends	Depends
We want to get everything we need for our small business in one package.	SBS provides an integrated package for your small business needs.	Yes	Yes	Depends	No
We want to be able to manage our network easily and would like daily health reports to ensure our network is up and running.	SBS 2003 R2 provides network health reports preconfigured to meet the needs of small businesses. Windows Server 2003 R2 can provide a wide variety of reports, but obtaining and interpreting them requires a substantial degree of IT knowledge. Both SBS and Windows Server come with Windows Server Update Services, which provides automated network-wide patch and update management.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
I need a simple solution to back up my files and data.	SBS has a built-in wizard to configure the backup process.	Yes	Yes	Depends	Depends
We are migrating from our previous network to a new system.	The migration process depends on various factors, including previous network environment. We recommend you work with your Microsoft Small Business Specialist or Certified Partner to ensure a smooth transition.	Depends	Depends	Depends	Depends
Projected Growth					
Our business is growing at a fast pace and our IT needs are rapidly expanding.	SBS 2003 R2 has a limit of 75 users. We recommend you decide based on your 1- to 2-year growth plans, as well as your current and future application and performance needs. In any case, as your business needs change, SBS 2003 R2 provides a "technology building block" for additional servers and a seamless transition to the full line of Microsoft Server products using the SBS Transition Pack.	Depends	Depends	Yes	Yes
We are acquiring other companies and need to connect with their data and e-mail immediately until we can incorporate everything into our server network.	SBS 2003 R2 is not designed to connect with e-mail and data on another network. Windows Server 2003 R2 can establish trust relationships between different networks.	No	No	No	Yes

Dependent on the specifics of your company.

Good fit for your business needs.

Potential poor fit for your company.

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You need	We recommend	Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 Standard Edition	Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 Premium Edition	Both Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 and Microsoft Windows Server 2003 R2	Microsoft Windows Server 2003 R2
Budget and Resource Availability					
We have a limited budget and want to get everything our business needs for the lowest price.	SBS 2003 R2 provides an integrated solution at a small-business-friendly price.	Yes	Yes	Depends	No
I want to learn how to manage my small business server myself rather than hire an IT professional to do it.	SBS 2003 R2 provides installation and administration wizards, but we strongly recommend that you engage a Microsoft Small Business Specialist or Certified Partner to make sure you get the most from your IT investment.	Depends	Depends	No	No
Application Support					
We use applications that require a database.	SBS 2003 R2 Premium Edition includes SQL Server 2005 Workgroup Edition and can be an affordable solution based on performance needs, number of users on the network, and whether or not the applications are vendor-certified to run on Workgroup Edition. Some applications may require a dedicated SQL Server to ensure high performance. In that case, we recommend SBS 2003 R2 Standard Edition or Windows Server 2003 R2 along with the appropriate edition of SQL Server 2005 on a separate server.	No	Depends	Yes	Depends
We use business-critical applications and need to ensure their infrastructure requirements are met.	The recommended solution varies, depending on the specific hardware and software requirements of your application. It will also depend on whether your application is compatible with and supported by that server operating system. Lastly, application performance is a big consideration in helping you make the right decision.	Depends	Depends	Depends	Depends
Reliability and Security					
A failover solution is mission critical to my business in the event of server downtime.	SBS 2003 R2 does not provide a failover solution. Running SBS in combination with Windows Server can provide partial fault tolerance for files and data that reside on the server(s) running Windows Server. For comprehensive failover capability, Windows Server 2003 R2 is the recommended solution.	No	No	Depends	Yes
My business has several branches and I need to replicate files on a separate server in another location, as well as provide simplified access to geographically dispersed files.	Windows Server 2003 R2 provides robust functionality for a distributed file system even for slow/limited bandwidth connections and is therefore the recommended solution.	No	No	Yes	Yes
We need to replicate our database for security in the event of server failure.	Database Replication is not included in SQL Server 2005 Workgroup Edition, the version of SQL Server that comes with SBS 2003 R2 Premium Edition. Data Replication is a feature of SQL Server Enterprise Edition, which must be purchased separately from Windows Server.	No	No	Depends	Depends

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You need	We recommend	Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 Standard Edition	Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 Premium Edition	Both Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 and Microsoft Windows Server 2003 R2	Microsoft Windows Server 2003 R2
Internet Presence and Usage					
We need to manage our employees' use of the Internet.	Microsoft Internet Security & Acceleration (ISA) Server provides internal monitoring and management of Internet access and is included in SBS 2003 R2 Premium Edition. It can also be used on a Windows Server 2003 R2 network but would need to be purchased separately.	No	Yes	Depends	Depends
My business needs a Web site and I want to securely host it in-house.	SBS 2003 R2 provides the capability to host Web sites in-house. Because SBS 2003 R2 must be the domain controller, this results in a situation in which Internet traffic uses bandwidth that would normally provide services to internal users, potentially compromising performance. It also gives Web site visitors access to your domain controller, which can be a security risk. Windows Server 2003 R2 is the best solution for hosting websites in-house.	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	Yes	Yes
Remote Access and Mobility					
Employees will connect using Microsoft Windows Mobile®-based devices such as Smartphone or Pocket PC.	SBS 2003 R2 integrates with Windows Mobile-based devices (using Exchange Server 2003, included in SBS 2003 R2) so your employees can access their e-mail, contacts, calendar, and more from almost anywhere, at any time. Windows Mobile integration is supported on Windows Server 2003, but Exchange Server 2003 would need to be purchased separately.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Depends
Users need access to their desktops from a remote location.	Remote Web Workplace, a feature unique to SBS 2003 R2, enables users to connect to e-mail, internal Web sites, files in the My Documents folders on their desktops, business applications, and files on the company network using any computer connected to the Internet. All that is required is a username and password. With Windows Server 2003 R2, Terminal Services can be configured to provide access to user desktops but it is a more complex solution and requires a second server.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Depends
Employees need to be able to connect to the network securely from outside the office.	SBS includes a basic firewall. To ensure tight security, we recommend using Microsoft Internet Security & Acceleration (ISA) Server on a separate device/server since it will provide internal monitoring and management of Internet access and a multi-layer firewall. ISA Server is included in SBS 2003 R2 Premium Edition, but would need to be separately purchased if using Windows Server 2003 R2. On the other hand, Windows Server 2003 R2 supports a Virtual Private Network (VPN) client, which can provide secure access to a comprehensive set of server resources.	No	Yes	Depends	Depends

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Not Always Black and White

Real-life Windows Server and Windows Small Business Server Scenarios

The following real-life scenarios demonstrate how small and midsize companies can create lasting business value by implementing Microsoft's powerful server solutions in a variety of situations.

SCENARIO 1

Business issue: Budget constraints

A small manufacturing company with 50 users currently runs a Windows 2000 network. They do not expect any growth in the number of users for the next couple years. They know that an integrated IT solution will save them money and enhance security, but they have a limited budget.

SOLUTION

Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 Standard Edition

At 50 users, they are close to the 75-user limit of SBS 2003 R2. As they do not foresee increasing the user base soon, however, SBS 2003 R2 Standard Edition is an appropriate and cost-effective solution. If they bought Windows Server 2003 R2, they would have to purchase Exchange Server 2003 separately for a total ERP (estimated retail price) of US$6,846 for 50 users.

With SBS 2003 R2 Standard Edition, they get Windows Server, Exchange Server 2003, and much more in one small business-friendly package for only US$4,946 ERP. This represents a potential savings of US$1,900.

The Standard Edition of SBS 2003 R2 provides the main features of SBS 2003 R2 Premium Edition, including file-sharing, e-mail, and automatic backup capabilities, but at a lower cost. And, it dramatically reduces the time spent managing the network, leading to increased productivity and further savings.

SCENARIO 2

Business issue: Powering up

A 40-person salesforce working from a single office has outgrown their current network. Their outside sales team needs better remote access to their desktops, and the company as a whole needs a database to support a new CRM solution that will enhance their productivity. Finally, their management is increasingly concerned about security, particularly as they have had problems with employees using the Internet for non-business purposes.

SOLUTION

Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 Premium Edition

In this case, the Premium Edition of SBS 2003 R2 is the right choice. In addition to powerful support for mobile professionals, it includes Microsoft SQL Server 2005 Workgroup Edition, allowing the company to implement their CRM solution quickly and easily.

SBS 2003 R2 Premium Edition also includes ISA Server 2004, providing the ability to monitor and control employees' Internet access.

With SBS 2003 R2 Premium Edition, the sales organization gets all these features for US$4,695 ERP. Separately, the components of SBS 2003 R2 Premium Edition would cost US$11,372 ERP. By purchasing SBS 2003 Premium Edition, they can potentially save as much as US$6,677!

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Real-life

Windows Server and Windows Small Business Server Scenarios

SCENARIO 3

Business issue: Running a memory-intensive application in a small business environment

A 50-employee accounting firm has an audit data-mining program. This application is crucial to the company's business, but it's highly resource-intensive, precluding it from hosting e-mail and files on the same server.

The audit teams also need robust remote access to the application, as they spend most of their time working at clients' offices.

SOLUTION

Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 Premium Edition and Windows Server 2003 R2

With e-mail and files on a server running SBS 2003 R2 Premium Edition, the firm has easy-to-manage e-mail and the ability to share files more securely. They install the custom application on a separate server running SQL Server 2005 Workgroup Edition (along with Microsoft Terminal Services for remote access), which can be seamlessly added to their SBS 2003 R2 environment.

In addition to the high performance they need, this solution provides them with a cost savings: with expanded CAL (Client Access License) rights included in SBS 2003 R2, they do not need to purchase separate SQL CALs for the additional SQL Server, bringing an estimated cost savings of US$730 for every 5 SQL CALs.

SCENARIO 4

Business issue: Branch offices

A small hedge fund company with 25 employees relies on powerful data processing capabilities for its day-to-day operations. In addition to high performance, the company needs a server that can provide automated data backup and extremely robust security to protect sensitive financial information.

Also, the company is opening a branch location and requires a local server at the branch to maintain high performance and availability even to users within the local branch while keeping Internet connectivity and overall administration costs low.

SOLUTION

Windows Server 2003 R2

Even though it has fewer than 75 employees, this organization should implement Windows Server 2003 R2, which gives it the flexibility to implement minimize wide area network (WAN) traffic—and provide robust failover functions and failover support between branches.

Windows Server 2003 R2 also provides enhanced branch integration with features like a new distributed file engine, centralized network management tools, and efficient data compression technologies. As the company expands, it can be confident that its server solution will grow with it, no matter how complex its needs.

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Real-life

Windows Server and Windows Small Business Server Scenarios

SCENARIO 5

Business issue: Licensing costs in a multi-server environment

An architectural firm of 35 people enjoys the ease-of-use of SBS 2003.

They are considering investing in a computer-aided engineering suite that requires a database on a separate server for performance reasons. They are concerned about the cost of this investment, particularly when it comes to licensing all the software components.

SOLUTION

Upgrade from SBS 2003 to SBS 2003 R2

They install Windows Server 2003 R2 on the application server. Since they purchased Software Assurance with their original SBS 2003 installation, they upgrade their main server to Windows SBS 2003 R2 at no cost.

This allows them to take advantage of new expanded CAL rights, which give them access to the application server on their Windows Small Business Server network without purchasing additional SQL CALs—a huge cost savings.

With SBS 2003 R2, the firm also gets increased e-mail storage and automated network-wide patch and update management.

SCENARIO 6

Business issue: Future-proofing the IT investment

A highly profitable consumer goods company is growing rapidly, expanding its user base and computing needs significantly.

In the new fiscal year the company will quickly surpass the 75-user limit of its present Windows SBS 2003-based system and is concerned about losing its existing IT investment.

SOLUTION

Upgrade to Windows Server using SBS 2003 R2 Transition Pack

The SBS 2003 R2 Transition Pack allows the company to turn its Windows Small Business Server 2003 license into standard licenses for each of the individual server components and removes the 75-user or device limit.

Best of all, the pricing is designed so they can leverage their existing IT investment and not pay any more than if they had originally purchased all the components separately.

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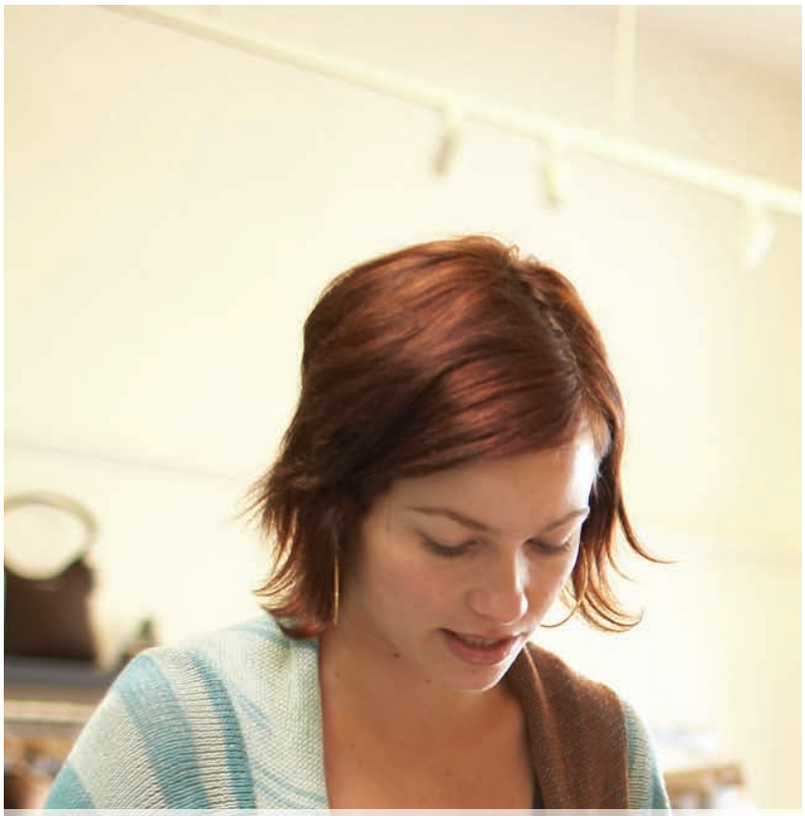

How to Get Microsoft Server Solutions

Windows Server 2003 R2 and SBS 2003 R2 are available through original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), system builders, resellers, and select retailers. Microsoft partners, especially Microsoft Small Business Specialists, are trained to help you decide which solution is right for you.

RESOURCES

Find a Microsoft Small Business Specialist near you:
microsoft.com/australia/smallbusiness/sbsa/vendorsearch.mspx

For more information on Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2 :
microsoft.com.au/sbs

For more information on Windows Server 2003 R2:
microsoft.com/windowsserver

For more information about the business benefits of Windows Small Business Server 2003 R2:
microsoft.com/australia/smallbusiness/products/sbs/what-will-a-server-do.mspx

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